

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1566
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2006
SURVEY OF LAKES/ RIVERS
Agarwal Shri Dharendra

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any survey in regard to polluted big lakes and rivers has been conducted by the Government during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to clean the surveyed lakes/rivers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) The Ministry is implementing a National Lake Conservation Plan for conservation of degraded lakes and National River Conservation Plan for abatement of pollution in the identified polluted stretches of rivers in the country. Under the National Lake Conservation Plan, the Ministry in September, 2003 conducted a study through the National Institute of Ecology on 'Survey and compilation for identification of lakes in India for conservation'. A report on compilation of lakes in the country has been prepared and 62 lakes identified for conservation under this plan.

Under the National River Conservation Plan, a survey on proposals for inclusion of additional towns/rivers during the X and XI Plan, was also conducted through Alternate Hydro Energy Centre, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee during 2003-04. The report submitted by the Institute recommends inclusion of pollution abatement schemes in 73 towns in addition to the schemes already approved under the ongoing river conservation plan.

(c) The lake/river conservation programmes taken up under National Lake Conservation Plan and National River Conservation Plan include pollution abatement works namely, interception & diversion of sewage, setting up of sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation and crematoria. Other measures include in-situ lake treatment like deweeding, desilting, bioremediation etc. besides lake/river front development and catchment area improvement in the identified polluted stretches of rivers and prioritized lakes